



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the new school year to those of you who have children who have moved up a year, to our new Reception class parents and the families of children who have joined our school in other years this autumn. The children have been excitedly sharing their summer news and I have seen so many of them making a really good effort in class and behaving well inside school and out which bodes very well for this year.

Despite the blustery autumnal weather the children are already making good use of our outdoor spaces. The Reception



and KS1 children have been using their outside areas – even in the drizzle. Please remember to send children with jacket, coat or cagoule as we will continue to give children these important opportunities to work outside all year round.

Year 2 blackberry picking in the nature garden yesterday.

On the theme of outdoor learning, Mrs Dickinson has asked me to mention that Grow It vouchers are now being given out at the tills in Morrisons. If you shop there please consider us for the vouchers you can get for your shopping and certain promotional items. Thank you.

We always think carefully before getting involved in any of the fundraising schemes run by the major supermarkets and always make sure that what we get out of them outweighs any staff or volunteer time used for administering the scheme. One that doesn't require us to do any administration at all is the Waitrose scheme where we are the school of the month in their green token collection tubs. Spending over £1 gets a green token, so please encourage anyone you know who shops at Waitrose to choose us by letting them know what we are collecting for by reading the blurb:

OUTDOOR LEARNING RESOURCES for SHIRE OAK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Children's speaking, listening skills and problem solving skills improve when working outdoors. We are fortunate to have expansive school grounds in which we have created a wildlife garden, community orchard, vegetable patches, a willow circle and two learning gardens. Now we are raising money to buy waterproof clothing so that all children can learn in them all year round.

Along with this newsletter is a copy of the information sheet we hold for your child. It is so important that we are able to contact you if your child is taken ill or there is an emergency of any kind as well as being very helpful for keeping in touch about more day to day things. Please check the sheet and make any amendments before returning to school. If it is fine, please still return it marked with a tick or similar so we know you have seen it. Please double check that more than one person is given as a contact and that mobile numbers are up to date. Thank you. Mrs Vollans has also attached another sheet to this newsletter which explains more about the other ways we can keep in touch with you.

As we did last year, we will put diary dates at the bottom of each newsletter and mark them with an * if they are new or changed in any way. This term is already shaping up to be a busy one so do keep an eye on the diary as we do like to welcome you into school as much as possible to share in and celebrate your children's learning.

Yours sincerely

Jane Astrid Devane

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Headteacher

devaneja01@leedslearning.net

We take the safeguarding of children very seriously at our school and we appreciate your help with this. If you have any concerns or observations regarding **health and safety**, please contact Jane Astrid Devane, Rachel Powell or Liz Craven. If you have any concerns or questions regarding **child protection** issues, please speak to Jane Astrid Devane or Hillary Whitehead.

DIARY DATES

Friday 16 th September	*	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Friday 23 rd September	*	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Tuesday 27 th September	*	Roald Dahl Day – dress up as your favourite Roald Dahl character – human or otherwise. Donations for the Roald Dahl children's charity welcome.
Wednesday 28 th September	*	Individual and siblings photo day
Wednesday 28 th September	*	'No Pens' Day – a chance for lots of speaking & listening and other creative learning ideas
September, date to be confirmed		Reception parents' meeting to find out more about how we teach reading (including phonics) and writing
Friday 30 th September	*	Y2 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Friday 7 th October	*	Y4 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Wednesday 12 th October	*	Open Morning for our families and for parents of prospective Reception parents (2012 intake) Times to be confirmed.
Friday 14 th October	*	Harvest Festival, 9am. We will collect food for PAFRAS http://www.pafRAS.org.uk
Friday 21 st October	*	Divali assembly 9am.
HALF TERM (24th – 28th October)		
Friday 4 th November	*	Eid-UI-Adha assembly 9am.
Monday 7 th to 18 th November	*	Anti Bullying Fortnight
Wednesday 9 th & Thursday 10 th November	*	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 10 th November	*	Birthday of Guru Nanak assembly. 9am.
Friday 11 th November	*	Y5 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Friday 11 th November	*	Remembrance Day – 2 minute silence
Wednesday 16 th November		Provisional date for training day. THIS MAY HAVE TO CHANGE.
Wednesday 16 th to Friday 18 th November	*	Y6 Residential to Robinwood Dobroyd Castle
Friday 18 th November	*	Y1 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Friday 18 th November	*	Children in Need day – Show your Spots
Wednesday 23 rd November	*	Y5/6 Cricket in the Classroom at Headingley Carnegie Stadium
Friday 25 th November	*	Y6 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Wednesday 30 th November	*	Y3 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Wednesday 7 th December	*	KS1 Christmas production, morning and afternoon
Friday 9 th December	*	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Thursday 15 th December	*	Carol Service at St Michael's Church 10:45 am.
Friday 16 th December	*	Homework and attendance celebration assembly in school

New items are marked with *